

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 05644 082128Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SAB-02 /029 W
-----038993 090118Z /73

R 082041Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3081
INFO PANCANAL
USCINCSO

UNCLAS PANAMA 5644

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, PN
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTIONS

DEPT FOR ARA/PAF AND PAN
USCINCSO FOR J-2 AND PAO
PANCANAL FOR IO

FOLG SENT ACTION PRIORITY USINFO WASHDC INFO DEPARTMENT
P R 082040Z AUG 77 FROM USIS/PANAMA RPTD YOUR INFO

QUOTE
UNCLAS
SECSTATE FOR ARA/PAF & PAN

EO 11652: N/A

MEDIA REACTION

1. PANAMA CITY- TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: ALL MEDIA HEADLINED AUG. 7
ARRIVAL OF U.S. NEGOTIATORS AND THEIR AIRPORT STATEMENTS. SEMI-
INDEPENDENT LA ESTRELLA HEADLINED STORY, "BUNKER AND LINOWITC ARRIVED
LAST NIGHT; NEGOTIATIONS RESUME TODAY: 'WE HOPE WE ARE IN FINAL
STAGE OF THE LONG JOURNEY.'" STAR AND HERALD HEADED AP PANAMA
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CITY STORY "BUNKER AND LINOWITZ MAKE STATEMENTS ON ARRIVAL FOR
TALKS; JOINT DECLARATION ON ACCORD EXPECTED." PRO-GOP MATUTINO
NOTED, "BUNKER AND LINOWITZ STATE THAT WE ARE NEARING A SUCCESSFUL
CONCLUSION OF A NEW TREATY."

2. ALL MEDIA DURING ENTIRE WEEKEND GAVE HEAVY, OPTIMISTIC COVERAGE
TO BOGOTA SUMMIT MEETING, INCLUDING TEXT OF PRESIDENT CARTER

MESSAGE TO PARTICIPANTS, AND EMPHASIZING U.S. INTEREST IN MEETING.
AUGUST 6 STAR AND HERALD HEADS BOGOTA AP STORY, "OPTIMISM RIFE
IN BOGOTA OVER EARLY P.C. ACCORD." AUG. 6 ESTRELLA HEADS
DIFFERENT BOGOTA AP ITEM, "CARTER REITERATES HIS PROPOSAL TO
SUPPORT NEW TREATY."

3. PRO-GOP CRITICA EDIT AUG. 6 HAS PRAISE FOR CARTER ADMINIST-
RATION: "THIS TIME (IN BOGOTA) IT IS NOT A QUESTION OF REPUDIATING
PAINFUL SLOWNESS OF NEGOTIATING PROCESS, NOR OF WARNING U.S.
THAT CONTINUING IMPASSE IN FULFILLING OF SOLEMN PROMISE WITH OUR
NATION CONSTITUTES CONSTANT THREAT TO PEACE ON CONTINENT. WE
MUST RECOGNIZE THAT DURING CARTER ADMINISTRATION, THE MOST
SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES TOWARD COMPLETION OF TREATY HAVE BEEN
ACHIEVED, AND ALL POINTS, EVEN MOST CONFLICTIVE, HAVE BEEN
FACED WITHOUT HESITATION AT NEGOTIATING TABLE."

4. AUG. 8 CRITICA EDIT CAUTIONS PANAMANIAN TO HEED ADVICE OF
PANAMANIAN NEGOTIATOR ESCOBAR BETHANCOURT THAT "U.S. HAS ALWAYS
PLAYED JURIDICAL TRICKS WHEN IT WANTS TO BLOCK EVENTS. WE
MUST BE CAREFUL OF THESE TRICKS NOW, WHEN EVERY WORD, EVERY COMMA
OF THE TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT, SHOULD HAVE PRECISE SIGNIFICANCE
WHICH DOES NOT THREATEN INTERESTS OF PANAMA...WE CANNOT HOPE, OF
COURSE, THAT WHAT COMES WILL BE BED OF FLOWERS...IN THE U.S. THE
WHITE HOUSE AND THE SENATE MUST DECIDE. THE FORMER CAN BE
SEEN BY DEEDS. AS FOR THE LATTER, THERE ARE LARGE QUESTION
MARKS WHICH MUST BE CLEARED UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE."
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5. USG REPORT SAYING U.S. "OWNS CANAL ZONE RECEIVED LIGHT PLAY.
MAJOR ITEM IS AUG. 6 AP WASHINGTON STORY ON ESTRELLA FRONT PAGE,
HEADED "WHITE HOUSE COMMITS GRAVE ERROR IN INFORMING CANAL
PROBLEM."

6. ANDREW YOUNG TRIP: INSTANTE INTERNACIONAL COLUMN IN AUG. 7
DOMINICAL SAYS AMB. YOUNG, ASST. SECRETARY TODMAN AND MRS. DERIAN
WILL HAVE DIFFICULT TASK ON THEIR LATAM TRIPS TO EXPLAIN USG
HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES, BUT ALL ARE WELL QUALIFIED TO DO SO:
"CERTAINLY YOUNG WILL FIND MANY STONES IN HIS PATH...BUT HIS
PERSONALITY, HIS OPEN AND POPULAR DIPLOMACY, HIS ABILITY TO
EXPLAIN PRES. CARTER'S POLICIES, WILL BE USEFUL IN THIS EFFORT
TO EARN GOOD WILL OF LATAM NATIONS...YOUNG SURELY CAN DO IT, AS
ASST. SECRETARY TODMAN IS DOING SO IN SOUTHERN CONE. AS CAN
BE SEEN, U.S. DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE IN LATAM COVERS ENTIRE
HEMISPHERE..." ITEM
UNQUOTE

JORDEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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